

## **TAPA Center for Jail Diversion**

### **Application to Test the Jail Diversion Tool Kit**

**Due Date: October 31, 2006**

#### **PURPOSE**

The GAINS TAPA Center for Jail Diversion (TAPA Center) is soliciting applications for two jurisdictions interested in testing our new Jail Diversion Tool Kit (Tool Kit).

This simply means a conference call to discuss the Tool Kit, receiving the Tool Kit, and using it as you see fit along with participation in interviews and a focus group.

The Tool Kit was developed to provide guidance to jurisdictions at the early stages of developing a jail diversion program for people with serious mental illness and co-occurring substance abuse. Now we need frontline input into its usefulness from jurisdictions which are currently planning a jail diversion program for people with serious mental illness and co-occurring disorders.

#### **COST AND LOGISTICS**

There is no fee for the jurisdictions chosen as the test sites. The TAPA Center will be responsible for the costs associated with conference calls, materials, and travel. Note that no funds will be disbursed to the selected jurisdictions.

#### **ABOUT THE JAIL DIVERSION TOOL KIT**

The Tool Kit is a package of materials to help a jurisdiction plan, design, implement, and operate a jail diversion program. Program sustainability and accountability are also addressed by the materials. The Tool Kit has been created by the GAINS TAPA Center for Jail Diversion, a branch of the National GAINS Center, with the support of the Federal Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS) of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

The TAPA Center will choose two jurisdictions currently planning a jail diversion program to serve as the test sites for the Tool Kit. The purpose of the test is to gather feedback regarding the Tool Kit's usefulness.

During the summer of 2006, the Tool Kit was reviewed by a panel of jail diversion experts, including representatives from Federal and State mental health and criminal justice agencies, jail diversion program directors, peer specialists, and representatives from national organizations. The current version of the Tool Kit is a product of the guidance provided by the review panel, the expertise shared by grantees of the CMHS Targeted Capacity Expansion for Jail Diversion initiative, and the knowledge of jail diversion gained by the TAPA Center since its inception in 2002.

## **TIMEFRAME AND COMMITMENT**

Applications are due on October 31, 2006. Applicants will be notified by November 15, 2006 if they are selected to test the Jail Diversion Tool Kit. All applications will be acknowledged. The TAPA Center plans to begin work with the selected sites in January 2007. The duration of the project is expected to be approximately 6 months.

The project will consist of the following activities:

- Conference call to clarify details of using the Jail Diversion Tool Kit.
- Delivery of the Tool Kit.
- Site use of the Tool Kit.
- Key informant interviews by TAPA Center staff at 1 and 6 months of approximately 3 people involved with the project. Interviews will be conducted by telephone and last no longer than 30 minutes.
- A focus group at 3 months of 8 – 10 people involved with the project. Participants will be compensated for their time. The focus group will be conducted on-site in meeting space reserved by the TAPA Center and will last approximately 2 hours.
- A conference call at 6 months to wrap-up the project. Costs of conference calls will be borne by the TAPA Center

## **CRITERIA FOR APPLICANTS**

The TAPA Center is seeking applications from jurisdictions that meet the following criteria:

- Are currently planning a new jail diversion program (either a pre-booking or post-booking model) for people with mental illness.
- Are willing to work with the TAPA Center by taking part in interviews, focus groups, and conference calls.
- Will identify one individual as the key leader or person responsible to lead and coordinate the planning and implementation process. This person must be a representative of either the lead criminal justice agency or the local public mental health agency.
- Will obtain endorsement of application from the director or head of the relevant criminal justice agency and the director or head of the local public mental health agency.
- Will employ the Jail Diversion Tool Kit as a resource in planning a jail diversion program.

**TAPA Center for Jail Diversion**  
**Application to Test the Jail Diversion Tool Kit**  
**Due Date: October 31, 2006**

\*\*Only completed applications with the required signatures will be considered.\*\*

**Jurisdiction:** \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Key Contact Person</b>	
<b>Name:</b>	
<b>Title:</b>	
<b>Mailing Address:</b>	
<b>City, County, State, Zip Code:</b>	
<b>Telephone:</b>	
<b>Fax:</b>	
<b>Email Address:</b>	

**Signature of criminal justice agency chief executive officer:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*I support the submission of this application and discussed it within my organization. I fully  
commit my organization to participate in the test of the Jail Diversion Tool Kit.*

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of local public mental health agency chief executive officer:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*I support the submission of this application and discussed it within my organization. I fully  
commit my organization to participate in the test of the Jail Diversion Tool Kit.*

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Jail Diversion Planning Efforts**

1. Please describe current planning efforts to implement a jail diversion program in your community.
  - a. What is the expected timeframe for implementing jail diversion?
  - b. Has a designated jail diversion planning committee/task force been meeting?
    - If **YES**: How often? Since when? Who comprises/chairs this committee?
  - c. Has any funding been designated for jail diversion planning and/or implementation?
  - d. What major obstacles to implementing jail diversion have been encountered? How have they been addressed?
2. Please describe the jail diversion program models you are considering.

